

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

AGENDA TITLE:	Adopting the 2020 State Legislative Priorities		
DEPARTMENT:	City Manager's Office		
PRESENTED BY:	Jim Hammond, Intergovernmental Program Manager		
ACTION:	<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance	<input type="checkbox"/> Resolution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing	

PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:

Staff has drafted proposed 2020 Legislative Priorities for the upcoming State Legislative Session. For 2020, staff proposes the continuation of efforts to secure funding and/or other legislative support for: a bike/pedestrian bridge at N 148th Street that would connect neighborhoods to the Shoreline South/145th Street light rail station; the 145th Street/Interstate-5 interchange; and a Fircrest Campus redevelopment that aligns with City goals.

In terms of policy, staff proposes to seek passage of legislation that would:

- Make changes to allowed annexation processes;
- Continue to request measures to support local government financial sustainability and flexibility including new financial resources for transportation, especially in light of the recent passage of I-976;
- Support efforts to continue to address homelessness and affordable housing
- Pursue creation of a tax increment financing option for cities;
- Advocate for a watershed-based approach to tackling fish-blocking culverts; and
- Support legislation that addresses climate change impacts, particularly in the transportation sector.

At its November 25th meeting, the City Council reviewed and discussed the proposed 2020 Legislative Priorities. Pursuant to Council direction, staff has revised the Priorities. Tonight, Council is scheduled to adopt the 2019 Legislative Priorities.

RESOURCES/FINANCIAL IMPACT:

This item has no direct financial impact.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the 2020 State Legislative Priorities.

Approved By: City Manager **DT** City Attorney **MK**

BACKGROUND

2020 is the second year of the State's 2019-2021 biennium, or "short" legislative session, which is scheduled to last 60 days. The City's legislative priorities provide policy direction in a highly fluid and dynamic legislative environment. They guide staff in determining whether the City supports or opposes specific legislation and amendments in Olympia during the legislative session. The City actively monitors legislative proposals at the state level, as success in advancing the City's position in Olympia depends on providing accurate and timely information to Legislators and their staff that illustrates the impacts of pending legislation on Shoreline.

The legislative priorities are the general policy positions that provide staff and Council representatives the flexibility to respond to requests for information and input. Key topics of legislation that do not fall under the adopted Legislative Priorities will be presented to the Council in regular briefings. The City also continues to partner with the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) and Sound Cities Association (SCA), which provides a consistent voice and a strong presence for cities in Olympia.

At its November 25th meeting, the City Council reviewed and discussed the proposed 2020 State Legislative Priorities (Priorities). The staff report for this November 25th Council discussion can be found at the following link:

<http://cosweb.ci.shoreline.wa.us/uploads/attachments/cck/council/staffreports/2019/staffreport112519-9b.pdf>.

DISCUSSION

At its November 25th meeting, the City Council reviewed the draft Priorities. During the course of its review, Council, by consensus, directed staff to make three modifications:

1. Change the sub-header at the top of the Legislative Priorities from "Shoreline-Specific Interests" to "Shoreline-Specific Priorities";
2. Add a fifth Shoreline-Specific Priority: "Restore to Transportation Benefit Districts the authority for councilmanic Vehicle License Fees"; and
3. In the first item under "Legislative Issues the City Supports", add the phrase, "for cities and metropolitan planning organizations" to the end of that item.

Pursuant to this Council direction, staff has revised the Priorities, which are attached to this staff report as Attachment A.

RESOURCES/FINANCIAL IMPACT

This item has no direct financial impact.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the 2020 State Legislative Priorities.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Final 2020 State Legislative Priorities



2020 Shoreline Legislative Priorities

Shoreline-Specific Priorities:

- Pursue funding support for a non-motorized pedestrian/bike bridge to integrate connections to the Shoreline South/145th Street light rail station.
- Maintain project visibility for the N 145th Street/I-5 Interchange as a strong candidate for any state transportation package.
- Partner with State agencies to seek legislative action that supports City goals and the long-term vision of an approved Fircrest Master Development Plan.
- Seek passage of legislation which would provide code cities the ability to annex unincorporated areas pursuant to a cooperative interlocal agreement.
- Restore to Transportation Benefit Districts the authority for councilmanic Vehicle License Fees.

Legislative Issues the City Supports:

- Pursue a comprehensive set of transportation policies that provide new financial resources and local funding options for cities and metropolitan planning organizations.
- Preserve city fiscal health with secure funding sources.
 - Remove the existing 1% property tax limitation or revise by indexing it to inflation, population growth, or some related indicator.
- Continue to address homelessness and opportunities to increase affordable housing at the state and local level through incentives and support, while avoiding mandates.
- Pursue the creation of a tax increment financing option for cities
- Continue to advance a watershed-based approach and strategic plan to address local fish-blocking culverts along with state culverts, and provide significant local funding.
- Support legislation that addresses climate change impacts, specifically in the transportation sector.